

Environmental Management Act

**CODE OF PRACTICE FOR THE SLAUGHTER AND
POULTRY PROCESSING INDUSTRIES**

[includes amendments up to B.C. Reg. 406/2007, December 6, 2007]

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PART 1 – DEFINITIONS

Definitions

- 1 In this regulation:

“**200-year flood plain**” means land where the chance of a flood occurring in any given year is at least one in two hundred;

“**Act**” means the *Environmental Management Act*;

“**agronomically sound rate**”, relative to nutrient application, means a rate of application that supplies all the nitrogen required by a crop being grown, but

allows very little or none of the nutrients to penetrate into the groundwater or below the area where the nutrients are used by the crop;

“category A facility” means a facility that

- (a) discharges less than 5 cubic metres of wastewater per day, and
- (b) is either
 - (i) an establishment where slaughter-industry processes are carried out, producing less than 60 tonnes live weight killed red meat per year, or
 - (ii) an establishment where poultry-processing industry processes are carried out, producing less than 40 tonnes live weight killed poultry per year;

“category B facility” means a facility that

- (a) discharges 5 or more cubic metres of wastewater per day, or
- (b) is either
 - (i) an establishment where slaughter-industry processes are carried out, producing 60 tonnes or more live weight killed red meat per year, or
 - (ii) an establishment where poultry-processing industry processes are carried out, producing 40 tonnes or more live weight killed poultry per year;

“domestic sewage” has the same meaning as in the Sewerage System Regulation, B.C. Reg. 326/2004;

“farmer” means a person who operates a farm on land classified as a farm under the *Assessment Act*;

“incinerator” means an incinerator used to dispose of solid waste;

“landfill” means a landfill, burial site or trench for the final disposal of solid waste, and does not include a landfill for the discharge of any waste that contains or is mixed with domestic or municipal refuse;

“low-permeability soil” means soil with hydraulic conductivity of 1×10^{-6} cm/s;

“poultry processing industry” has the same meaning as in Schedule 2 to the Waste Discharge Regulation;

“slaughter industry” has the same meaning as in Schedule 2 to the Waste Discharge Regulation;

“processing waste” means wastewater and solid waste;

“qualified professional”, in relation to a duty or function under this code, means an individual who

- (a) is registered in British Columbia with a professional organization, is acting under that organization’s code of ethics, and is subject to disciplinary action by that organization, and

(b) through suitable education, experience, accreditation and knowledge, may reasonably be relied on to provide advice within his or her area of expertise, which area of expertise is applicable to the duty or function;

“**solid waste**” includes feathers, hides, bones, carcasses, manure and other non-liquid wastes produced by the slaughter industry or the poultry processing industry;

“**vector**” means an organism that is capable of transmitting a pathogen from one facility, waste source, product or organism to another facility, waste source, product or organism;

“**wastewater**” means processing water which may contain blood, fat, oil, grease, industrial cleaners and other liquid wastes produced by the slaughter industry or the poultry processing industry;

“**watercourse**” means a place that perennially or intermittently contains surface water, including

(a) a lake, river, creek, canal, spring, ravine, swamp, saltwater marsh or bog, and

(b) a drainage ditch leading into anything referred to in paragraph (a);

“**Waste Discharge Regulation**” means the Waste Discharge Regulation, B.C. Reg. 320/2004.

[am. B.C. Reg. 406/2007, s. 1.]

PART 2 – GENERAL

Registration information

- 2 (1) Subject to subsection (2), a person must register under section 4 of the Waste Discharge Regulation for the purposes of an exemption under that section in relation to this code, and must include, with the other information required under section 4 (2) of that regulation, the following information:
- (a) the annual production, in tonnes of live weight killed per calendar year, of red meat and of poultry products by the person’s facility;
 - (b) the maximum amount of wastewater discharged from the person’s facility, in cubic metres per day;
 - (c) Repealed. [B.C. Reg. 406/2007, s. 2.]
 - (d) a list of the following information or plans that have been completed as required under this code:
 - (i) a nutrient management plan under section 8 (3);
 - (ii) a groundwater monitoring and assessment plan under section 10 (2) (d);
 - (iii) a vector control plan under section 12;
 - (iv) a landfill closure plan under section 14 (2) (b).

- (2) A person engaged in the slaughter industry or the poultry processing industry is not required to register under section 4 of the Waste Discharge Regulation for the purposes of an exemption under that section in relation to this code if the products the person produces from either of those industries are for the person's personal use and not for resale.

[am. B.C. Reg. 406/2007, s. 2.]

Records and plans

- 3** Records required to be kept under this code and plans referred to in section 2 (1) (d) must be
- (a) retained for at least 10 years, and
 - (b) made available for inspection by an officer within 2 days of a request by the officer to inspect those records.

Exception

- 4** A person engaged in the slaughter industry or the poultry processing industry is required to comply with neither Part 3 nor 4 if the products the person produces from either of those industries are for the person's personal use and not for resale.

PART 3 – DISCHARGE OF WASTEWATER

Discharge by category A facilities

- 5** A person operating a category A facility
- (a) must not discharge wastewater directly into groundwater or into a water-course,
 - (b) must take measures to control fugitive dust and odour caused by the operation of the category A facility, and
 - (c) must keep records of the following information:
 - (i) the amount of wastewater discharged, in cubic metres per day, from the category A facility for any period during which there is a discharge;
 - (ii) production volumes of red meat or poultry, in tonnes of live weight killed per year.

Discharge by category B facilities

- 6** A person operating a category B facility
- (a) must comply with section 5, and
 - (b) must ensure that a discharge of wastewater from the category B facility is carried out in accordance with either section 7 or 8, as applicable.

Subsurface discharge of wastewater

- 7** (1) Wastewater discharged into the subsurface of the ground from a category B facility must not surface and must not cause the groundwater table to be raised to the surface.
- (2) A person discharging wastewater under subsection (1) must conduct inspections of the discharge site to ensure compliance with that subsection.
- (3) The subsurface wastewater disposal system of a category B facility that discharges wastewater into the subsurface of the ground for the first time after September 30, 2007, must be designed by a qualified professional and installed according to that design.
- (4) A category B facility that has discharged wastewater contrary to subsection (1) may resume discharging wastewater into the subsurface of the ground if the discharge is carried out in accordance with a plan designed by a qualified professional.
- (5) A person operating either a category A facility or a category B facility may discharge wastewater containing domestic sewage into the subsurface of the ground if
- (a) the domestic sewage source is from the facility,
 - (b) the discharge complies with subsection (1),
 - (c) the person complies with subsection (2), and
 - (d) the subsurface disposal system is designed by a qualified professional and installed according to that design.

[am. B.C. Reg. 406/2007, s. 3.]

Wastewater irrigation

- 8** (1) Wastewater must not be discharged on ground with agricultural crops intended for human consumption.
- (2) Except for wastewater discharged by a farmer under subsection (5), wastewater discharged from a category B facility onto the surface of the ground to irrigate that ground must meet all of the following conditions:
- (a) it must not contain more than 10 mg per litre of fat, oil or grease;
 - (b) it must not exceed a carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand concentration of 45 mg per litre;
 - (c) it must not contain more than 60 mg per litre of total suspended solids;
 - (d) it must not contain more than total coliform organisms of 1 000 per 100 ml of wastewater and total fecal organisms of 200 per 100 ml of wastewater.
- (3) A person intending to discharge wastewater from a category B facility under subsection (2) must ensure that
- (a) a qualified professional designs a nutrient management plan for the beneficial use of treated wastewater for irrigation, and

- (b) the nutrient management plan referred to in paragraph (a) is carried out as designed.
- (4) A plan referred to in subsection (3) (a) must include
 - (a) a description of the public access to and use of the ground, and
 - (b) an analysis of the effect on the ground of the wastewater discharged on it from the category B facility.
- (5) Wastewater discharged by a farmer onto the surface of the farmland to irrigate that land
 - (a) must be discharged at an agronomically sound rate, and
 - (b) must not exceed 100 cubic metres annually.
- (6) A person operating either a category A facility or a category B facility may discharge wastewater containing domestic sewage onto the surface of the ground if
 - (a) the domestic sewage source is from the facility,
 - (b) the discharge complies with subsections (1) and (2), and
 - (c) the person complies with subsection (3) and (4).

[am. B.C. Reg. 406/2007, s. 4.]

Sampling and analysis

- 9** (1) To ensure compliance with section 8 (2), a person discharging wastewater from a category B facility under that section must ensure that sampling and analysis of the wastewater are carried out
 - (a) before the wastewater is discharged, and
 - (b) every two weeks during the period when the wastewater is being discharged.
- (2) The sampling and analysis required under subsection (1) must be carried out
 - (a) in accordance with the requirements of the latest version of the Field Sampling Manual issued by the ministry, and
 - (b) by a laboratory registered with the Canadian Association for Environmental Analytical Laboratories.
- (3) A person referred to in subsection (1) must keep records of the results of the sampling and analysis carried out under this section.

PART 4 – DISCHARGE AND DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTES**Division 1 – Landfills****Landfill site**

- 10** (1) Subject to subsection (3), a landfill
- (a) must not be more than 2 m wide,
 - (b) must be located
 - (i) on a site that has a slope of less than 0.5%,
 - (ii) at least 1 m below ground level,
 - (iii) within a property so that there is at least 50 m between the property line and the boundary of the landfill, and
 - (iv) so that there is at least 4 m between the seasonal high water table beneath the landfill and the bottom of the landfill, and
 - (c) must not be located within
 - (i) 100 m of the nearest surface water,
 - (ii) the 200-year flood plain,
 - (iii) 100 m of unstable or potentially unstable terrain,
 - (iv) 30 m of another landfill, either closed or currently in use, or
 - (v) 300 m of a residence, hotel, restaurant, school, church, public park, water supply well, or water supply intake.
- (2) A person proposing to establish a landfill
- (a) for the disposal of more than 5 000 kg/ha/year of solid waste,
 - (b) in an area with an average precipitation of more than 600 mm/year, or
 - (c) that will not meet a requirement set out in subsection (1),
- must ensure that
- (d) a qualified professional evaluates the landfill and designs a groundwater monitoring and assessment plan, and
 - (e) Repealed. [B.C. Reg. 406/2007, s. 5.]
 - (f) the person complies with the plan referred to in paragraph (d).
- (3) A landfill established under subsection (2) in compliance with a plan referred to in paragraph (d) of that subsection is not subject to the requirements of subsection (1).
- [am. B.C. Reg. 406/2007, s. 5.]

Landfill use

- 11** (1) Solid waste disposed of at a landfill must immediately after the disposal be covered with
- (a) at least 0.15 m of low-permeability soil, and

(b) an impermeable cover to prevent precipitation from entering the landfill.

(2) A person operating a landfill must take measures to control fugitive dust and odour caused by the operation of the landfill.

Vector control plan

12 A person intending to begin operating a landfill must complete and retain a plan setting out how the person intends to control vectors at the landfill.

[am. B.C. Reg. 406/2007, s. 6.]

Records of use

13 A person operating a landfill must keep records containing all of the following information:

- (a) the dates of disposals of solid waste made at the landfill;
- (b) the location of the landfill;
- (c) the types and quantities, by mass, of solid wastes disposed of at the landfill.

Landfill closure

14 (1) A landfill must be closed by covering the landfill with at least 1 m of low-permeability soil that extends

- (a) at least 0.3 m above ground level, and
- (b) at least 0.5 m beyond the landfill site.

(2) At least 3 months before the closure of a landfill referred to in section 10 (2) (a), the person operating the landfill must

- (a) notify the director of the intended closure,
- (b) complete and retain a landfill closure plan, prepared by a qualified professional, for the closure of the landfill, and
- (c) comply with the plan referred to in paragraph (b), or, if the plan is amended under subsection (3), with the plan as amended.

(3) The director may amend a plan referred to in subsection (2) (b).

(4) A person must not deposit solid waste at a landfill that has been closed.

[am. B.C. Reg. 406/2007, s. 7.]

Division 2 – Incineration

Incinerator sites

15 An incinerator must not be located

- (a) within 500 metres of a residence other than a residence of the person operating the facility, and
- (b) within 1 000 metres of an existing
 - (i) other business,

- (ii) school,
- (iii) hospital, or
- (iv) continuing care facility.

Operation of incinerators

- 16** (1) An incinerator, including all equipment that is an integral part of an incinerator or is used to operate an incinerator, must be installed, operated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications and recommended procedures.
- (2) A person operating an incinerator must take measures to control fugitive dust and odour caused by the operation of the incinerator.

Loading rates

- 17** The maximum loading rates for an incinerator are as follows:
- (a) for a continuous feed incinerator, 400 kg/hour;
 - (b) for a batch feed incinerator, 400 kg/load.

Emission limits

- 18** An incinerator must not exceed the following emission limits:
- (a) total particulate matter of not more than 50 mg/m³ at reference conditions of dry gas at 25°C and 101.3 kPa, corrected to 11% O₂;
 - (b) total opacity of not more than 10% averaged over 6 consecutive minutes.

Stack monitoring and record keeping

- 19** (1) Subject to subsection (2), a person operating an incinerator must conduct stack monitoring
- (a) on the first day of operation, and
 - (b) no later than one year after the day that stack monitoring was last conducted.
- (2) Stack monitoring must be conducted in accordance with the Stationary Air Emissions Testing section in the latest version of the Field Sampling Manual issued by the ministry.
- (3) The director may require testing in addition to the stack monitoring required under subsection (1) if the director considers this necessary or advisable in the circumstances.
- (4) A person operating an incinerator must keep records
- (a) of the results of the stack monitoring analysis conducted under this section, and
 - (b) of the quantities of solid waste disposed of by the incinerator.

[Provisions of the *Environmental Management Act*, S.B.C. 2003, c. 53, relevant to the enactment of this regulation: sections 22 and 138 (3) (h)]

Queen's Printer for British Columbia©
Victoria, 2008